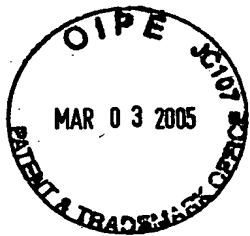


3-4-05

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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 16869K-103100US
Client Ref. No.: 637/SM/at

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naotaka KABAYASHI *et al.*

Application No.: 10/754,371

Filed: January 9, 2004

For: STORAGE DEVICE
CONTROLLING APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF
CONTROLLING THE SAME

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 7589

Examiner: Unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2182

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.